

Amendments to the Specification:

Please replace the paragraph that begins on page 9, line 20, with the following paragraph:

Referring now to Figure 10, a second exemplary embodiment of the present invention is shown. As shown, a device (e.g., AP) is configured to broadcast a modified beacon 1000 for receipt by the wireless units. In a first embodiment, each modified beacon (e.g., DTIM) 1000 includes a plurality of additional information elements 1010 such as one or more of the following: AP name 1020, AP ~~IDP~~ information 1030, and/or load balancing information 1040. A preliminary frame check sequence (FCS) information element 1050 is placed in the modified DTIM 1000 after the additional information elements 1010. Moreover, after the preliminary FCS 1050, the modified DTIM 1000 may include a test pattern 1060 followed by the normal frame check sequence 1070 as defined in the IEEE 802.11 Standard for the modified beacon 1000 as a whole. The preliminary FCS 1050 allows the receiver to confirm that the MAC header and other beacon information elements were received correctly, even if the test pattern contains bit errors.